(b) if so, whether this has brought changes in Indo-US relations;

(c) whether US terror package for India has been approved;

(d) whether Pakistan terrorist king was held in Nepal by Nepal Government;

(e) whether Iran has also stated that Pakistan must use iron hand on terror; and

(f) if so, action taken by Pakistan in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (f) Government has shared the results of its investigation in the Mumbai terror attacks case with the international community. Government expects that the Government of the United States of Amercia along with the international community would extend all necessary help in bring the perpetrators of the terrorist act to justice.

India and the US have a strong cooperation in the area of counter-terrorism. The two countries have identified international terrorism to be a common enemy and a threat to the civilized world.

There is no US terror package for India. The question of its approval does not arise.

Government of Nepal and denied reports, that the terrorist in our custody was arrested in Nepal, following allegations to this effect in the Pakistan media.

The Government of Iran had strongly condemned the terrorist attack on Mumbai.

On 12th February 2009, Pakistan conveyed its response to the dossier of material that we had made available to it linking the terrorist attacks on Mumbai to perpetrators in Pakistan. In the response, Pakistan authorities have confirmed that elements in Pakistan were involved in the terrorist attack on Mumbai. Pakistan has also sought further information and material relating to the investigation.

Fall in tiger population

*151. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether latest census shows sharp fall in tiger population;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(c) tiger population in States/tiger reserves in 2002, 2007 and at present;

(d) whether the situation is alarming;

(e) the total amount spent by Centre/States till date, since inception of tiger project, *viz.* World Wildlife Fund for tiger conservation in India, average annual expenditure for upkeep and protection of a tiger;

(f) the details of observations of Rajasthan High Court on 25 May, 2007 regarding corruption/mismanagement in Ranthambhor National Park, and whether similar lapses are rampant in other tiger reserves also; and

(g) the steps being taken to salvage the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (d) As per the findings of the recent (2008) all India estimation of tiger using the refined methodology, the total country-level population of tiger is 1411 (mid value); the lower and upper limits being 1165 and 1657 respectively. The details are given in the Statement-I (*See* below). The recent assessment of tiger population is based on determining spatial occupancy of tigers throughout potential tiger forests and sampling such forests using camera traps in a statistical framework. This assessment is not comparable to the earlier total count using pugmarks owing to several shortcomings in the latter. The new findings indicate a poor status of tiger population in areas outside tiger reserves and protected area. The tiger population, by and large, in tiger reserves and protected areas of such States are viable, while requiring ongoing conservation efforts. The tiger population in the country for the year 2002 or reported by the States, using the old method which is not comparable with the new findings, are at given in the Statement-II (*See* below). The all India tiger estimation is carried out with a periodicity of four years.

(e) Under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, funding support is provided to 17 tiger range States in the country for in-situ conservation of tigers in 37 designed tiger reserves. The details of central assistance to States since inception of Project Tiger is given in the Statement-III (*See* below).

(f) As informed by the State, in the Writ Petition No. 8888/2006, the Single Bench of the Hon'ble High Court of Rajasthan in its judgment dated 25.5.2007 issued direction in the form of broad guidelines, which are given in the Statement-IV (*See* below). The said judgment was stayed by the Hon'ble Double Bench of Rajasthan High Court on 8.10.2007, which issued directions on 27.9.2008 to the State for complying with statutory provisions relating to protection to wildlife and control of pollution. The matter is still subjudice.

Further, there are no reports of rampant lapses in other tiger reserves.

(g) The steps taken by the Government of India for conservation of wild animals including tiger are given in the Statement-V.

Statement-I

Details of Forest occupancy of Tigers, Co-Predators, Prey and population estimates of tigers

State	Tiger Km^2	Tiger Numbers		
		No.	Lower limit	Upper limit
1	2	3	4	5
Shivalik-Gangetic Plain Landscape Complex				
Uttarakhand	1901	178	161	195

1	2	3	4	5
Uttar Pradesh	2766	109	91	127
Bihar	510	10	7	13
Shivalik-Gangetic	5177	297	259	335
Central Indian Landscape Complex and Eastern Ghats Landscape Complex				
Andhra Pradesh	14126	95	84	107
Chhattisgarh	3609	26	23	28
Madhya Pradesh	15614	300	236	364
Maharashtra	4273	103	76	131
Orissa	9144	45	37	53
Rajasthan	356	32	30	35
Jharkhand**	1488		Not Assessed	
Central India	48610	601	486	718
Western Ghats Landscape Complex				
Karnataka	18715	290	241	339
Kerala	6168	46	39	53
Tamil Nadu	9211	76	56	95
Western Ghats	34094	412	336	487
North East Hills and Brahmaputra Flood Plains				
Assam*	1164	70	60	80
Arunachal Pradesh*	1685	14	12	18
Mizoram*	785	6	4	8
Northern West Bengal*	596	10	8	12
North East Hills, and Brahmaputra	4230	100	84	118
Sunderbans	1586		Not Assessed	
TOTAL TIGER POPULATION		1411	1165	1657

* Population estimates are based on possible density of tiger occupied landscape in the area, not assessed by double sampling.

** Data was not amenable to population estimation of tiger. However, available information about the landscape indicates low densities of tiger in the area ranging from 0.5 to 1.5 per 100 km^2.

Statement-II

Regarding population of tigers in the country as reported by States

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2001-02**
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	192
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	61***
3.	Assam	354
4.	Bihar	76
5.	Chhattisgarh	227
6.	Delhi	Nil
7.	Goa	5
8.	Gujarat	Nil
9.	Haryana	Nil
10.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	Nil
12.	Jharkhand	34
13.	Karnataka	401
14.	Kerala	71
15.	Madhya Pradesh	710
16.	Maharashtra	238
17.	Manipur	Nil
18.	Meghalaya	47
19.	Mizoram	28
20.	Nagaland	23^
21.	Orissa	173
22.	Punjab	Nil
23.	Rajasthan	58
24.	Sikkim	NR
25.	Tamil Nadu	60

1	2	3
26.	Tripura	NR
27.	Uttaranchal	251
28.	Uttar Pradesh	284
29.	West Bengal	249
	TOTAL	3642

N.R. Not reported by State.

Tiger census was not carried out.

** Under compilation/vetting

*** Only for Namdapha Tiger Reserve.

Figures included in undivided State.

^ Entire State not covered.

Statement-III

Details of amount allocated by the Central Government under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger

(Rs. in lakhs)

IV Plan (Only 1973-74)	Rs. 2.53
V Plan (1974-75 to 1978-79)	Rs. 387.25
Roll-ing Plan (1979-80)	Rs. 63.90
VI Plan (1980-81 to 1984-85)	Rs. 494.86
VII Plan	Rs. 1475.42
1990-91	Rs. 700.98
1991-92	Rs. 549.81
VIII Plan	Rs. 3890.09
IX Plan	Rs. 7500.00
X Plan	Rs. 18200.00
Allocation for 2007-08	Rs. 6490.00
Current year allocation	Rs. 7700.00
TOTAL	Rs. 47454.84 (around Rs. 474.55 crores)

Statement-IV

Details regarding salient directions issued by the Hon'ble High Court of Rajasthan in its judgment dated 25.5.2007

1. Implementation of the Kumat Committee Report on Ranthambhore Reserve.
2. Developing parking complex for tourism.
3. Use of pollution free vehicles for tourism.
4. Setting up Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) outlet.
5. Regulating the number of tourist vehicles.
6. Regulating pilgrim visitation to the Ganesh Temple.
7. Parking at Jogi Mahal gate.
8. Safeguarding the ecosensitive zone around the National Park.
9. Maintenance of path to the Ganesh Temple.
10. Maintenance and development of the National Park.
11. Recruitment of staff.
12. Use of petrol run vehicles.
13. Providing equipment to staff.
14. Timely release of funds.
15. Prosecution of offenders.
16. Rewards for exceptional work.
17. Shifting of villages.
18. Prohibition of weapons.
19. Responsibility of park officers.
20. Check on tourists.
21. Developing a safari park in Sawai Madhopur.
22. Not allowing any industry/commercial activity around the National Park.

Statement-V

Details of steps taken by the Government of India to protect tiger and other wild animals

Legal steps

1. Amendment of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for providing enabling provisions for constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority and the Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau. The punishment in cases of offence within a tiger reserve has been enhanced. The Act also provides for forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon that has been used for committing any wild life offence.

Administrative steps

2. Strengthening of antipoaching activities, including special strategy for monsoon patrolling, by providing funding support to Tiger Reserve States, as proposed by them, for deployment of antipoaching squads involving ex-army personnel/home guards, apart from workforce comprising of local people, in addition to strengthening of communication/wireless facilities.

3. 100% Central Assistance provided to 17 Tiger Reserves as an additionality for deployment of Tiger Protection Force, comprising of ex-army personnel and local workforce.

4. Constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority with effect from 4.09.2006, for strengthening tiger conservation by, *interalia,* ensuring normative standards in tiger reserve management, preparation of reserve specific tiger conservation plan, laying down annual/audit report before Parliament, constituting State level Steering Committees under the Chairmanship of Chief Ministers and establishment of Tiger Conservation Foundation.

5. Constitution of a multidisciplinary Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau (Wildlife Crime Control Bureau) with effect from 6.6.2007 comprising of officers from Police, Forest, Customs and other enforcement agencies to effectively control illegal trade in wildlife.

6. Approval accorded for declaring eight new Tiger Reserves.

7. The revised Project Tiger guidelines have been issued to States for strengthening tiger conservation, which apart from ongoing activities, *interalia,* include funding support to States for enhanced village relocation/rehabilitation package for people living in core or critical tiger habitats (from Rs. 1 lakh/family to Rs. 10 lakhs/family), rehabilitation/resettlement of communities involved in traditional hunting, mainstreaming livelihood and wildlife concerns in forests outside tiger reserves and fostering corridor conservation through restorative strategy to arrest habitat fragmentation.

8. A scientific methodology for estimating tiger (including cooperators, prey animals and assessment of habitat status) has been evolved and mainstreamed. The findings of this estimation/assessment are bench marks for future tiger conservation strategy.

9. An area of 26749.097 sq. km. has been notified by 14 Tiger States (out of 17) as core or critical tiger habitat under section 38V of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, as amended in 2006 (Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Karnataka, Kerala, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Orissa and West Bengal). Three tiger States (Bihar, Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh) have taken a decision for notifying the core or critical tiger habitats (4264.282 sq.km.). The State of Madhya Pradesh has not identified/notified the core/critical tiger habitat in its newly constituted tiger reserve (Sanjay National Park and Sanjay Dubri Wildlife Sanctuary).

10. Memorandum of Understanding developed for better/concerted implementation of conservation inputs through tiger reserve States.

Financial steps

11. Financial and technical help is provided to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, *viz.* Project Tiger and Integrated Development of Wildlife habitats for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection of wild animals.

International Cooperation

12. India has a Memorandum of Understanding with Nepal on controlling trans-boundary illegal trade in wildlife and conservation, apart from a protocol on tiger conservation with China.

13. A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.

14. During the 14th meeting of the Conference of Parties to CITES, which was held from 3rd to 15th June, 2007 at The Hague, India introduced a resolution along with China, Nepal and the Russian Federation, with directions to Parties with operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale, for restricting such captive populations to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers. The resolution was adopted as a decision with minor amendments. Further, India made an intervention appealing to China to phase out tiger farming, and eliminate stockpiles of Asian big cats body parts and derivatives. The importance on continuing the ban on trade of body parts of tigers was emphasized.

Reintroduction of Tigers in Sariska Tiger Reserve

15. A male tiger and a tigress have been reintroduced in the Sariska Tiger Reserve (Rajasthan), based on a recovery strategy suggested by the Wildlife Institute of India. The tigers are being closely monitored by radio telemetry.

Creation of Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF)

16. The policy initiatives announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech of 29.2.2008, *interalia,* contains action points relating to tiger protection. Based on the one time grant of Rs. 50.00 crore provided to the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for raising, arming and deploying a Special Tiger Protection Force, the proposal for the said force has been approved by the competent authority for 13 tiger reserves. Advisory has been sent to Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand for initiating steps for deploying in Dudhwa, Ranthambhore and Corbett tiger reserves, with 100% Central assistance during the current financial year.

Defective ATMs

†*152. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.